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# A R T I C L E S To be enquired of by the Church-wardens

and Sworne-men, within the pecu-  
*liar Jurisdiction of the Deane and*  
*Chapter of the Cathedrall Church*  
*of S. Peter in Exeter.*



AT LONDON,  
Printed by Thomas Purfoot.  
An. Dom. 1609.



63. Among other thinge verifiable, whether there be any persones, or persons, in Somerly, Kyngeston, or other parts of this Dioces, who have by vertue of any service done to them, or any other considerations, to place themselves above the rest of their fellowes, or other parishes, either in churche, frienship, or some other partie of estimation or respect, or any of them have bin accustomed to any in this Dioces, by creating of bolding or holding, or by vertue of procurations, any rewardest, or communitie, or by any other meanes, to haue contribution, helpe, or remission of penance, or other churche facermons, obligacions, or any benefites, or othes, or any other like impes or meanes?

64. Whiche maner custome you haue, and farrinations, are notably used to farrinacions committed in your parish, since Easter, 1670? how many offencess in any churche farrinacion sent to their Deanes, and openly cōfesseth, and haue hym selfe remitted at, or before the Inthalde, or before he paid money to his Chancery, Chamberlai, Communitarie, Official, or their bawies, or to y<sup>e</sup> Deanes, Regillaries, or Scummers, or any of them, so; to escape open punishment, and correction; and what their names and farrinacions be?

65. Whether the Deanes, Rulers, and Scummers, or any of them do pay any annual rent, or a pension for their offices, and what they pay, and to whom.

66. Generallie whether there be among you, any notorious evill liuers, or any suspect of any notorious sin, fault, or tryme, to the offence of Christian people committed, any that stubbornly refuse to conuenie themselves to uniting and godly religion, now established by publicke authority, or any that haue caused or made rumors of alteration of the same, or otherwise that disurbeth governors, & the quietnesse of Churche church, and the Christian congregation.

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# ARTICLES To be enquired of by the Church-wardens

and Sworne-men, within the pecu-  
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Chapter of the Cathedrall Church  
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AT LONDON,

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(c.)





## The tenor of the Oath of the Church-wardens and Sworne-men.

YOR shall sweare, that upon due consideration of these Articles giuen you in charge, you shall present every such person of or within your Parish, as you shall knowe to haue committed any offence, or omitted any dutie mentioned in any of these Articles, or which are publikely defamed, or vehemently suspected of any such offence or negligence: So helpe you God, by the contents of his holy Gospell.



MS. A. 1. 1. fol. 100  
Actes of Assembly  
Anno 1601  
C. 15

Touching the Church.



1 Whether is your Church or Chappell with the Chauncell thereof, and every part of either of them, well and sufficiently repayred, the windowes well glased, the floores paned plaine and even, without dust, or any thing noysome, or unseemely.

2 Whether is your Churchyard well fenced with walles, rayles, pales, as hath bene accustomed; if not, whose default is it.

3 Whether hath there bin any fighting, chiding, brawling or quarrelling, any playes, feasts, temporall Courts or Lets, lay Juries, Posters, or other prophane vsage in your Church or churchyard any Wels superstitiously runng on Holy-dates, or their Eves, or at any other time without god cause, allowed by the Minister, & Churchwardens: have any trees bin felled in your churchyard, & by whom?

4 Whether is the mansion house of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, with al the buildings thereunto belonging, your Parish, Almes-house, and Church-house sufficiently repayred, maintayned, and to godly, and their right uses employed.

5 Whether haue you in your Church, the Bible in the largest volume, the Booke of common Prayer lately authorized by his Maiestie, the bookes of Homilies allowed, & two Psalters, a convenient Pulpit for the preaching, a decent seat for the Minister to read service in, conveniently placed, a strong chest with a hole in the lid, and thre locks and keyes, one for the Minister, the other for the Church-wardens for the almes of the poore, and the keping of the Register Booke of the Christenings, Marriages, and Burials.

6 Whether haue you in your Church, a Font of stone for baptisme set in the ancient vnewall place, a decent Table for the Communion conveniently placed, covered with silke, or other decent stoffe in time of divine Service, and with a faire linnen cloth ouer that, at the administration of the Communion.

7 Whether haue you all such Wels, Ornamentes, & other Utensils as haue ancientlie belonged to your Church, a communion cup of silver with a couer, a faire standing pot or sloape of pewter or purer metall, for the wine vpon the communion table, a comely surples with sleeves, a Register Booke of parchment of christenings, marriages, & burials,

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als, a booke so; þ names of al strange Preachers subscribed with their names and the name of the Bishop or others where they had license?

8 Whether is the almes for your poore quarterly at the least distributed by you the Churchwardens and the Minister in the presence of sixe of the chiese Parishioners, to your poore? And are wckely the names and surnames of all persons married, christened, and buried and of their Parents with the day & yeare entred in your said parchment booke, and is every lease being full, subscribed by you the Minister and Churchwardens.

9. Whether are the ten Commandements set vp in the East end of the Church, and other chosen Sentences of holy Scripture vpon the wals in conuenient places, are all your seates in your Church in god repaire cleanlie kept, conuenientlie placed, and the parishione: s in the or elsewhere orderly set, and is there no contention or Striving so; any seat or place amongst them?

Touching the Ministrie, Service, and Sacrament.

**W**ether is the common prayer said or sung by your Minister both morning and evening distinckly and reverently every Sunday and Holy-day, and on their Ceues, and at conuenient and vsuall times of those dates, and in most conuenient place of the Church so; the edifying of the people?

2. Whether doth your Minister obserue the orders, rightes, and ceremonies prescribed in the booke of common prayer, in reading the holy Scriptures, Prayers, & administration of the Sacraments, without diminishing in regard of preaching or any other respect, or adding any thing in the matter or forme thereof.

3. Whether doth your Minister on wednesdaies and fridays, not being holy daies at the accustomed houres of Service, resort to the Church and say the Letanie prescribed, and doth your Clarke or Dyer ton give warning before by tolling of a bell on those daies.

4. Whether doth your Minister as oft as he administreth the communion, first receive it himselfe: whether doth he vse any bread or wine newly brought, before the words of Institution be rehearsed, and the bread and wine present on the table, doth he not deliuer the bread and wine to every communicant severally?

5. Whether doth your Minister give warning publikly in þ church at morning prayer on the Sunday before he administreth the Communion, for the better preparation of the Parishioners.

6. Whether hath your Minister admitted to the Communion any noto:is

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notorious sinner openly knowne or defamed, or any who hath openly and malitiously contended with his neighbour, before repentance and reconciliation made and done by appointment of the ordinary?

7 Whether hath your Minister admitted to the Communion any Church-warden or Side-man, who hath willingly and willingly neglected contrary to his oath, to present any publike offence or scandal, being moued to present either by some of his Neighbours, the Minister, or his Ordinary?

8 Whether hath your Minister administered the communion to any but such as knowe or doe any refuse to kneele? hath he administered to any who refuseth to be present at publike Prayer? or who hath despised the Booke of common Prayers administration of the Sacraments, or the rights and ceremonies prescribed or the Articles of Religion agreed vpon, or the Booke of ordering Priests, and Bishops? or against his Paiestit's Supremacie? or haue any bane for these causes repented, and haue they repented in writing, or otherwise, and what be their names?

9 Whether hath your Minister more Benefices the one if he haue, how farre distant are they, how often is he absent in the yeare: when he is absent, hath he an allowed Preacher for his Curate?

10 Whether is your Minister an allowed Preacher: if he be, doth he every Sunday in your Church, or some other nere adioyning where no Preacher is, preach one Sermon every Sunday?

11 Whether doth your Minister being no Preacher allowed, presume to expound the Scripture in his owne Cure, or else where doth he procure every moneth a Sermon to bee preached in his Cure by Preachers lawfully licensed, and on every Sunday when there is no Sermon doth he or his Curat read some one of h Homilies prescribed

12 Whether is your Curate allowed by the Ordinary under his hand and seale to serue in your Cure, and whether doth he serue two churches or chappells in one day?

13 Whether doth your Minister alwaies in saying the publike Prayers and administering the Sacraments, weare a decent surpesse with sleeves, and being a Graduate, doth he alwaies weare therewith a Hood by the order of the Universities, agreeably to his degree.

14 Whether hath your Minister or any other Preacher in your Church, preached any thing to consute or impugne any doctrine delivered by any other Preacher, and hath he and they prayed for Chrifts Catholike Church, as is prescribed by the Canon?

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- 15 Whether hath, or doth any preach in your Church which refuseth to conforme himselfe to the Lawes, Rites, and Ordinances established, or which hath not first received a sufficient licence?
- 16 Whether doth your minister in his sermons four times in the yeare at the least, teach and declare the Kings Maiesties power within his Realmes, to be the highest power vnder God, to whom al within the same, owe most loyaltie and obedience, and that all soveraigne power is justlie taken away?
- 17 Whether doth your Minister every Sunday & Holy-day halfe an hour before Evening prayer or more, examine and instruct the youth in the ten Commandements, the Belife, the Lords prayer, and the Catechisme, set forth in the Booke of common prayer?
- 18 Whether hath your Minister married any which haue not bin these general Sundays or Holy-daisies asked in your Church in this time of diuine Service without license, or hath he with licence or without married any wheresoever neither dwelt in your Parish?
- 19 Whether hath your Minister with licence or without, married any at any other times than betwene the houres of Eight & Twelne in the soore-nonne, or in any private house, or when there is no license, before their Parents or Gouernours, (the parties being vnder the age of 21) haue testifiid their consents?
- 20 Whether doth your Minister declare to the people every Sunday at the time appointed, what Holy-dates or Fasting dates be in the weekes following: doth he being a Preacher confer with all Recusants and persons excommunicate or suspended & beeing no Preacher doth he procure a sufficient Preacher to reclame them thereby?
- 21 Whether doth your Minister kepe a Note of all persons excommunicate, and once every sixe moneths, doth he denounce them which haue not obtained their absolution, on some Sunday in service time, that others may be admonished to restraine their company?
- 22 Whether doth your Minister having notice given him, diligently visite the sick (the disease not being infectious) doth he instruct and comfort them, doth he then moone them to make their Testaments, and remember the poore, and other workes of charity, and the passing-bell tolling, doth he then neglect his last dutie?
- 23 Whether hath your Minister refused to baptize anie Childe brought to the Church vpon any Sunday or Holy-day, or to borke any Corps brought into the Church or churchyard; or to church any women, having had warning thereof.

24 Whether

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24 Whether hath your Minister being truly informed of the danger of death of any Infant unbaptized, and being desired to go to the place where the child is, to baptise it, neglected to goe, by meanes whereof the child died unbaptized?

25 Whether doth your Minister at any time preach or administer the communion in any priuate house, except when any are so impotent, that they cannot goe to Church, or very dangerouslie sicke.

26 Whether do any Chaplens, in your parish preach or administer the sacrament in any Chappell not consecrated, or in any house having no Chappell allowed by law, and doe the Lords and Waikers where such chappells are, resort often to the parish Church, and there receive the communion once at the least every year?

27 Whether hath your Minister held or appointed any publike fast, or bēne present at such, doth he or any other in your parish hold any Lecture or Exercise, or attempt by fasting or prayer, or otherwise to cast out any Devils, without the license of the Bishop under his hand and seale?

28 Whether hath there bēne any secret conuenticles or meetings in your parish by any Priests, Ministers, or others, tending to the depraving of the forme of prayer, doctrine, or government of the Church?

29 Whether doth your Minister and Preacher, being at the least a Master of Arts, or Bachelor of Law, usually weare his Gowne with a standing collar, and staines straight at the hand, or wide staines, and therewithall a Hood or tippet of like or sarcenet, and a square cap?

30 Whether doth your Minister having not attained those degrees, weare the like Gowne, and square cap with a tippet?

31 Whether doth your Minister in his iourney weare a cloak with staines called a priests cloak with gards, welts, long buttons, or cuts?

32 Whether doth your Minister weare a wrought night-cap at any time, or doth he weare any cut or pinkt apparel, doth he in publicke goe in his Dublet and hose without a coat or cassocke, and doth he weare any light coloured stockings?

33 Whether doth your Minister resort to any Tavernes, or Ale-houses, except for his honest necessities, or doth he boode or lodge in any such place, doth he use any base or scurrilous labour, drinking, riot, dice, cardes, tables, or any other unlawfull games? is he contentious, a hunter, hawkēr, swearer, dauncer, suspected of incontinencie, or give euill example of life? Righte or wranglie, or baselye, or unrighte

34 Whether is there in your Parish any Minister or Deacon whiche hath

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hath forsoake his calling, vsing himself in his course of life as a lay man?  
Touching Schoole-masters.

**W**ether have you in your Parish any Schoole-master, who teacheth either in publike Schoole, or priuate hoysse: doth hee give any euill example of life, is hee allowed by the Ordinary vnder his hand and seale, or doth your minister or Curate teach, and is hee allowed in like manner?

2. Whether doth your minister or Schoolemaster, who teacheth, teach the Catechisme by authority set forth, doth hee when there is any Sermon, or diuine seruice, bring his Schollers to Church, and see them quietly and soberly ordered, doth hee examine them after their returne what they haue learned of the sermon?

3. Whether doth he at other times teach them such sentences of holy Scripture, as may induce them to al godlynesse, doth he teach the Grammer set forth by King Henry the Eight, continued by King Edward the sixt, and Queen Elizabeth?

4. Whether hath your Schoolemaster an Usher vnder him, are they both diligent, is your Usher allowed by the Ordinary, doth your Schoolemaster direct his Usher & forme & manner of teaching and doth hee weekly take account of him & the Schollers vnder his charge how they haue profited, what they haue learned & out of what author?

5. Whether hath either of them spoken, writ, or taught against any thing wherunto he formerly subscribed, as the Kings supremacy, the Articles of religio, book of common prayer, or any thing therein contained?

Touching the Parish Clarke and Sexton.

**W**ether haue you a parish Clarke sufficient for his place of the age of 20 years at the least, is he of honest conuersation, can he read, write and sing, is he diligent in his office, and serviceable to his minister?

6. Whether doth your Clarke meddle with any thing above his Office, as churching of women, burying the dead, reading of prayers, or such like?

7. Whether doth your Clarke or Sexton keepe your Church clean, the dyverses locked, is any thing by his default lost or spoyled in the Church, doth he suffer any unreasonable ringing, or any profane exercise in your churche?

8. Whether doth your Clarke or Sexton, when any is passing out of this life, neglect to toll a bell hausing notice thereof, or the party being dead, doth he suffer any moze than one short peale, and before his buriall

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buriall one, and after the same another?

5 Whether doth any of your Parish refuse to pay unto the Parish clark or Sexton such wages as are unto them due, and haue beene accustomed paid.

Touching Parishioners.

W<sup>E</sup>tether hath any in your parish spoken against, or any way impugned the Kings Maiesties supremacie in causes Ecclesiastical, the Truth and Doctrine of the Church of England, & forme of Gods worship contained in the Booke of common Prayer, and administration of Sacraments?

2 Whether hath any in your parish spoken against, or impugned the Articles of religion, agreed vpon in Anno 1602: the rites, & ceremonies established in the church, the government by Archbishops, Bishops, Deanes, Archdeacons and others that beare office in the same?

3 Whether hath any in your parish spoken against, or impugned the forme of making and consecrating Bishops, Prelates, or Deacons, or haue any separated themselves from the society of the congregation and combined in a new Brotherhood, or deuided the Synod lately held by th Kings authority?

4 Whether hath any in your parish maintained or defended any such Ministers or Scholemasters as refuse to subscribe to the order of the Church, haue they affirmed that such Ministers, and their adherents may make rules, and order in causes Ecclesiastical without the Kings authority?

5 Whether doth any in your parish prophane, violate, or mispend the Sabbath, or holy day, or any part of them vsing any offensive conversation, or worldly labour in those daies, or any of them?

6 Whether hath any in your parish, in time of divine seruice covered his head, albeit he haue infirmitie, in which case a cap or night-coufe is allowed, or is there any whos haire not reverently knelled when the generall Confession, Letanie, and other prayers are read, and which haue not stood vp at the saying of the Belasser?

7 Whether hath any in your parish disturbed the Seruice or Sermon by walking, talking, or any other way, or departed out of the Church, during the seruice or sermon without some urgent cause, or loytered about the Church, or church-porch?

8 Whether doe all parishioners receive the holy communio thise every year at the least, whereof the feaste of Easter to be one, & haue all being of the age of 16. yeares vndrie reueased, or noe?

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9 Whether hath any Parent bene brged to be present, or admitted to answer as God-father for his owne child, or hath any God-father or God-mother made any other answere or speach, than is prescribed by the Booke, or haue any beene admitted so; such at baptisme, who haue not first recuelid the Communion?

10 Whether both all fathers, mothers, masters, mistresses come and cause their childdren, seruants, and apprentices to come dale to the church, according to the ministers direction, to be instructed and catechised, or who be they that haue not obeyed the minister herein?

11 Whether haue any persons married together within the degress of consanguinitie or affinitie prohibite, set forth in a Table appoineted to be placed in every church, or haue any married or contrayred hemselues vnder the age of 21. yeres, without the consent of their Parents, or Gouernours, if their Parents be dead?

12 Whether haue any persons once lawfully married, forsaken each other, or doe liue a sunder without the authority of the Ordinariy, or doe any being diuorced or separated, marrie againe the former wife or husband yet living?

13 Whether haue any bene maried in 2 times wherein mariage is by law restrained, without lawfull license, viz. From the Saturday next before Aduent Sunday, vntill the fourteenth of Januarie: and from the Saturday next before Septuagesima Sunday vntill the Sunday next after lowe Sunday: and from the Sunday before the Rogation week, vntill Trinitie Sunday?

14 Whether hath any of your parish vnreuerentlie vsed your minister, or haue any laid violent hands vpon him, or disgraced his Office and Calling by word or deade?

15 Whether haue you in your parish anie dweller or sojourner, a maintainer of Popish doctrine, or suspected to kepe scismatical books, or to fauour any heresie or errore?

16 Whether haue you any common resort to your church, which are not of your parish, or doe anie such receane the communion amoungst you: what be their names, and of what parishes are they?

17 Whether haue anie in the time of service, opened their shoppes, exercised their trade, vsed anie gaming, bene in anie Tauerne, or Alehouse, or otherwise ill employed?

18 Whether are there in your parish any Adulterers, Fornicators, incestuous persons, bawdes, receauers, close fauourers, conveyers away, or which suffer to depart any incontinent person unpunished, anie blasphem.

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blasphemers, Common swearers, Drunkards, Rybands, Usurers, malitious flaunderers, Scolds, or solvers of discord, or any defamed of the said crimes?

19 Whether doe any in your Parish administer the goods of the dead without authoritie, or supprese their will or Testament, haue any Executores neglected to performe their Wills, especiallie in paying of Legacies giuen to the church, to the poore, or to any other charitable, or godlie uses?

20 Whether doe any refuse to paie to the reparations, ornaments, and other things required in your church, as they are ceasid by a lawfull destricte, or any dwelling out of your parish, which hold land in your Parish?

21 Whether hath any person suspended or excommunicated, bene suffered to heare Divine seruice, or the sermon, to receiue the sacraments, to be married or churched, or haue any Excommunicants bene buried in christian burialle

22 Whether haue any in your Parish bene chirkned, churched, buried, or received the communion, or been maried out of your church, both parties dwelling in your Parish.

23 Whether haue all women in your parish delivered of child, come at conuenient time after to church to give thanks, and haue they bene churched according to the Booke of common prayer?

24 Whether hath the perambulation of the circuit of your Parish bene obserued once euerie yere, if not whose default is it?

25 Whether haue any in your Parish given the churchwardens or Sidemen, or any of them euill words for doing thier dutie, according to their oath and conscience in making presentement for any fault.

Touching Church-wardens and Swornemen.

Whether doe any in your Parish take vpon them to be church-warden or Sideman, which is not lawfully chosen by the Minister and Parishioners according to the Canon, or doe any continue that Office longer than one yere, except they bee chosen againe, and are all such Officers chosen yarelle in Easter weeke?

2 Whether doe your churchwardens within one Moneth at the most after their yere ended, before the Minister and Parishioners, gine vp a iust account of all such monie, and other things, as they haue received and bestowed? haue they delivered all remaining in their hands belonging to their church or parish, by bill indentured to be delivered to the next churchwardens?

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- 3 Whether have the Churchwardens with h' advise of the Conventer from time to time provided a sufficient quantity of fine white bread, and holosome wine for the number of Communicants
- 4 Whether doe the Churchwardens and Sidemen before euerie Visitation, and at other times when there is just occasion, meete and conserue about their presentments, and the answering of these Articles, and who hath taken notice given him of the time and place, carelessly absented himselfe?
- 5 Whether the forfeiture of xij. d. for absence from Church, appointed by Statute to the use of the poore, be taken and levied by the Churchwardens, and employed according to the same Statute: and whether is the same forfeiture taken of all persons which stand wilfully suspended or excommunicate?
- 6 Whether have any churchwardens lost, sold, or defayned anie Swds, Ornaments, Bells, Rents, or Implements of the Charche
- 7 Whether doe you the Churchwardens and Sidemen about the middest of divine Service vsually walke out of the Charche, and see who are absoled in any Alehouse, or elsewhere absent, or vsually employed, and have you presented all such to the Ordinary?
- 8 Whether doe you know, or have heard a fame of anie offence committed, or dutie omitted by any of your Paroch before your time, and heretofore not presented to the Ordinary, or as yet not resoymed, and have you presented the same?
- 9 Finally, doe you know of any master or cause which is a breach of the lawes Ecclesiasticall here not expellid, and have not presented the same?

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